










THIS PLACE,
KNOWN AS THE
"DEVIL'S CORD"...

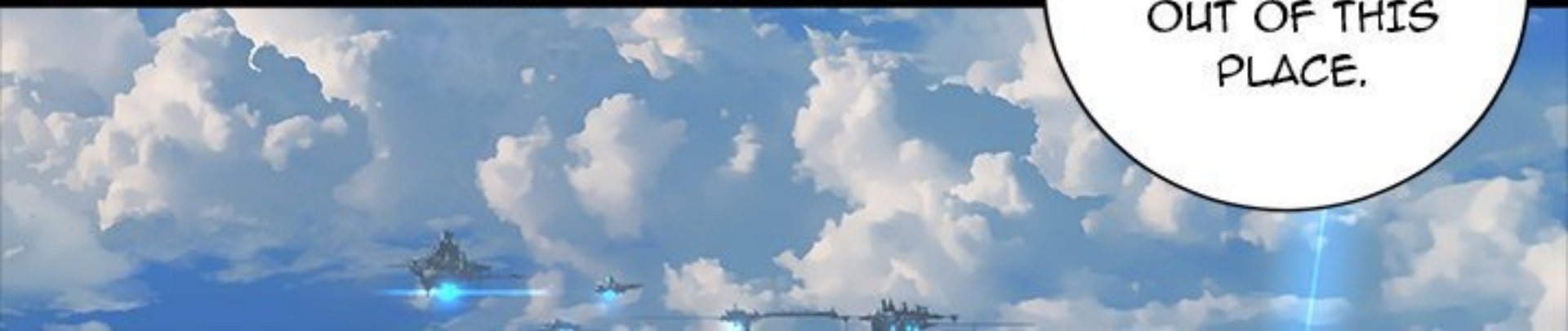




IS A PASSAGE
THAT CONNECTS
THE DEMON REALM
AND THE EARTH.

MANA IS
NEEDED TO
CONTROL THE
EVIL ENERGY...

THAT GUSHES
OUT OF THIS
PLACE.





THE MOMENT
HUMANS LOCKED UP
THE MANA AND STOPPED
ITS CIRCULATION...




The image is a two-panel comic book illustration. The top panel shows a futuristic, floating city with a large, glowing blue orb on a rooftop. The bottom panel shows a sky filled with floating, jagged rock formations.



THE GODS THAT
WERE PROTECTING
THIS PLACE, LOST
THEIR POWERS.

IT'S ONLY



A MATTER OF
TIME...

BEFORE MY
BODY STOPS
DRAWING MANA
FROM THE ENELI'S
DIMENSION.

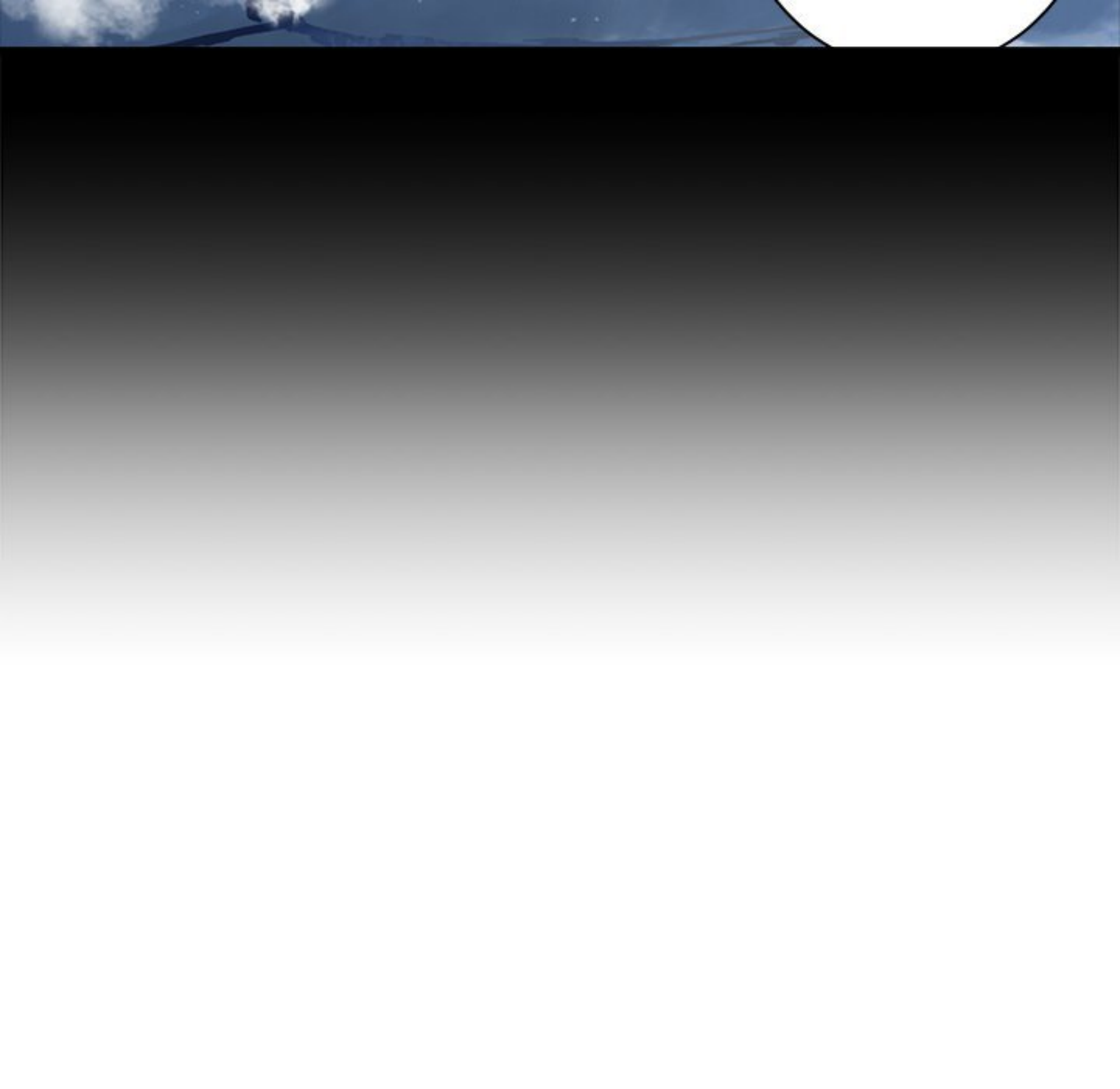
THE BEST WAY
TO DEAL WITH THIS
SITUATION...

IS TO
DESTROY THE
PALACE OF
GORHA...





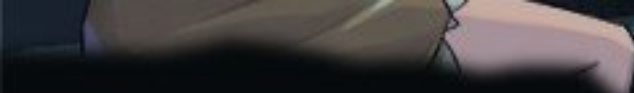
WHICH HAS
A HUGE AMOUNT
OF MANA SAVED
INSIDE IT.



HOW COULD
HE KILL THE
PEOPLE WHO
WERE JUST DOING
WHAT HE TOLD
THEM TO DO?

THAT'S
NONSENSE!






WE'RE NOT
TRYING TO DESTROY
THE KINGDOM...

WE'RE JUST
MESSENGERS
WHO WERE ONLY
TRYING TO EXPLAIN
THAT THAT'S THE
ONLY WAY!

I GUESS THE
PALACE IS THE
SYMBOL OF THE
KINGDOM, SO...





EVEN IF HIS
MAJESTY DECIDES
TO PARDON US...

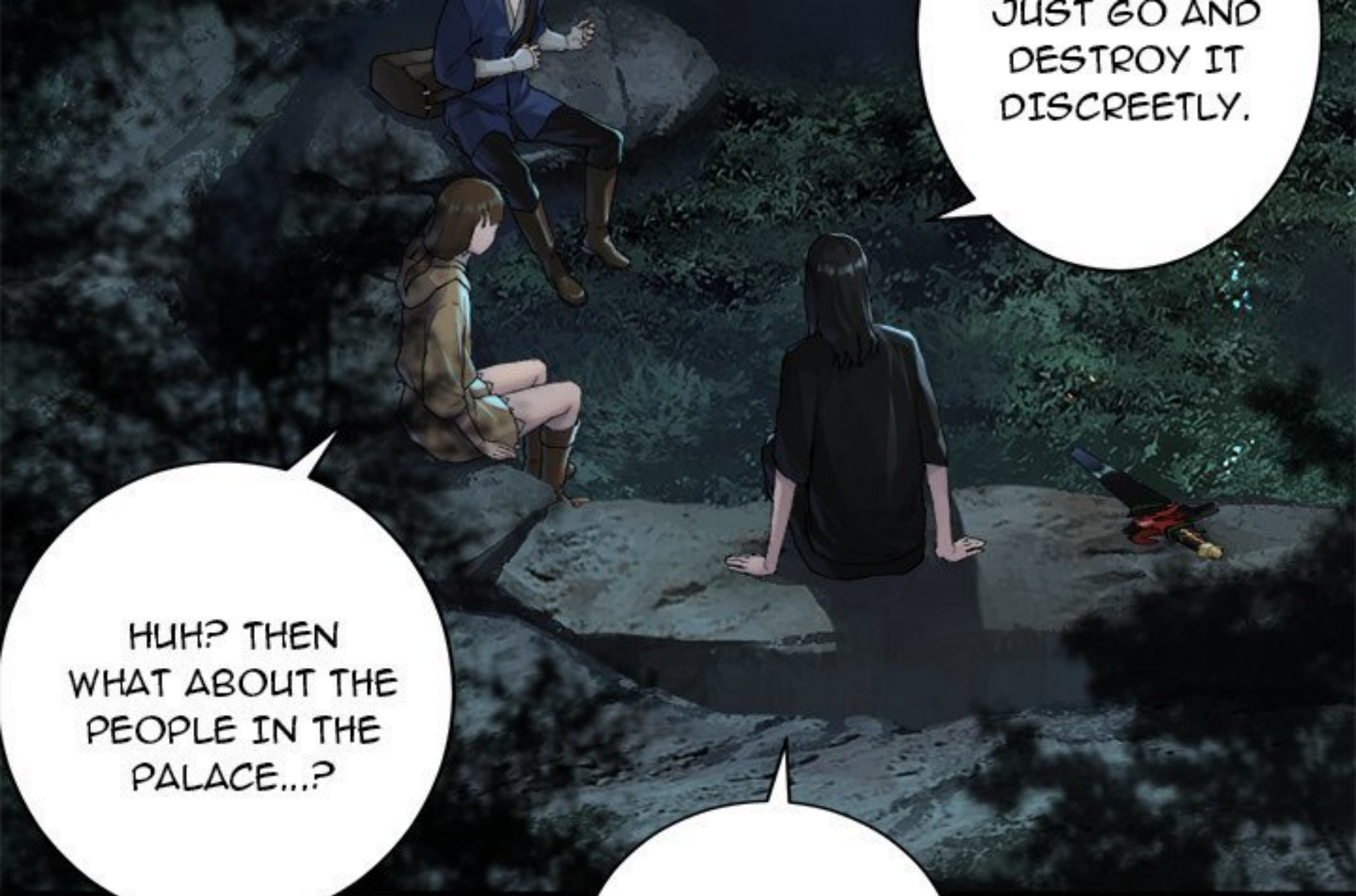
THE EARLS
MIGHT ACCUSE

US OF BEING DEVILS
OR TRAITORS.

TH-THEN
WHAT SHOULD
WE DO?

EEK...

I COULD



JUST GO AND
DESTROY IT
DISCREETLY.

HUH? THEN
WHAT ABOUT THE
PEOPLE IN THE
PALACE...?

AH... Y-YOU'RE
RIGHT...



DESTROYING
THE SHELCON ISN'T SO
SIMPLE, OUTSIDER.


HM?



MANA IS THE
BIGGEST ENERGY
THAT WAS CREATED
BY THE ABSOLUTE
BEING.

IF IT'S MANA
THAT'S CONDENSED
IN A COLOSSAL
SHELCON LIKE
THAT...






NO MATTER
HOW STRONG YOU
ARE, IT WILL BE VERY
DIFFICULT TO
DESTROY.


HUH?!

ARE YOU
UNDERESTIMATING
ME AGAIN?!



DIDN'T YOU
SEE ME SLAY
THAT LIZARD?


SINCE YOU'VE
MENTIONED IT...



YOU DRAGGED
GARDON TO ANOTHER
DIMENSION AND SUCCEEDED
IN DEFEATING IT...



SINCE GARDON
WAS NOT THE
ABSOLUTE BEING
IN THAT DIMENSION.



BUT THAT
GOES THE SAME
FOR YOU TOO.



IN THIS WORLD...
IF A SPIRIT THAT HAS
BEEN SUMMONED GETS
DAMAGED BEYOND REPAIR,
IT IS SENT BACK TO ITS
ORIGINAL WORLD.

IF AN UNEXPECTED
ACCIDENT HAD OCCURRED
AT THAT MOMENT...





THERE MIGHT
HAVE BEEN IRREPARABLE
RESULTS...



...



LORD YUTIBA!



LET'S JUST
GO!

WE CAN'T BE
SURE WHAT HIS
MAJESTY IS LIKE
AT THE MOMENT...



BUT IT'S A
METHOD ALL OF
THE PEOPLE WHO TRIED
TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM
CHOSE.

LET'S JUST
DO IT FIRST...





AND THINK
OF THE NEXT STEP
ONCE WE GET
THERE!





STAB



ALRIGHT THEN.

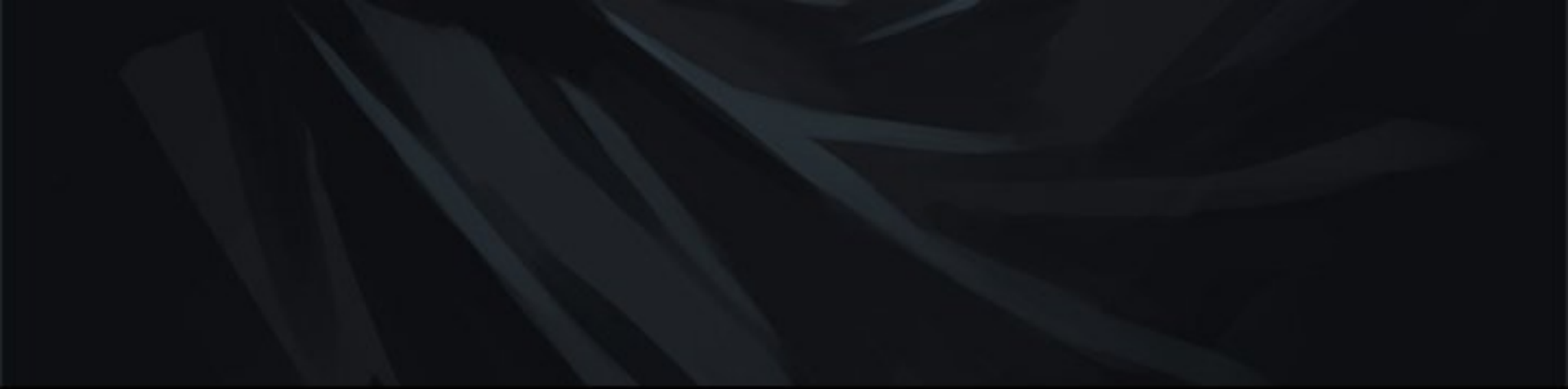





LET'S DO THIS,
SHALL WE?!










THEY'RE
ON THEIR WAY
CASH!

BACK?!

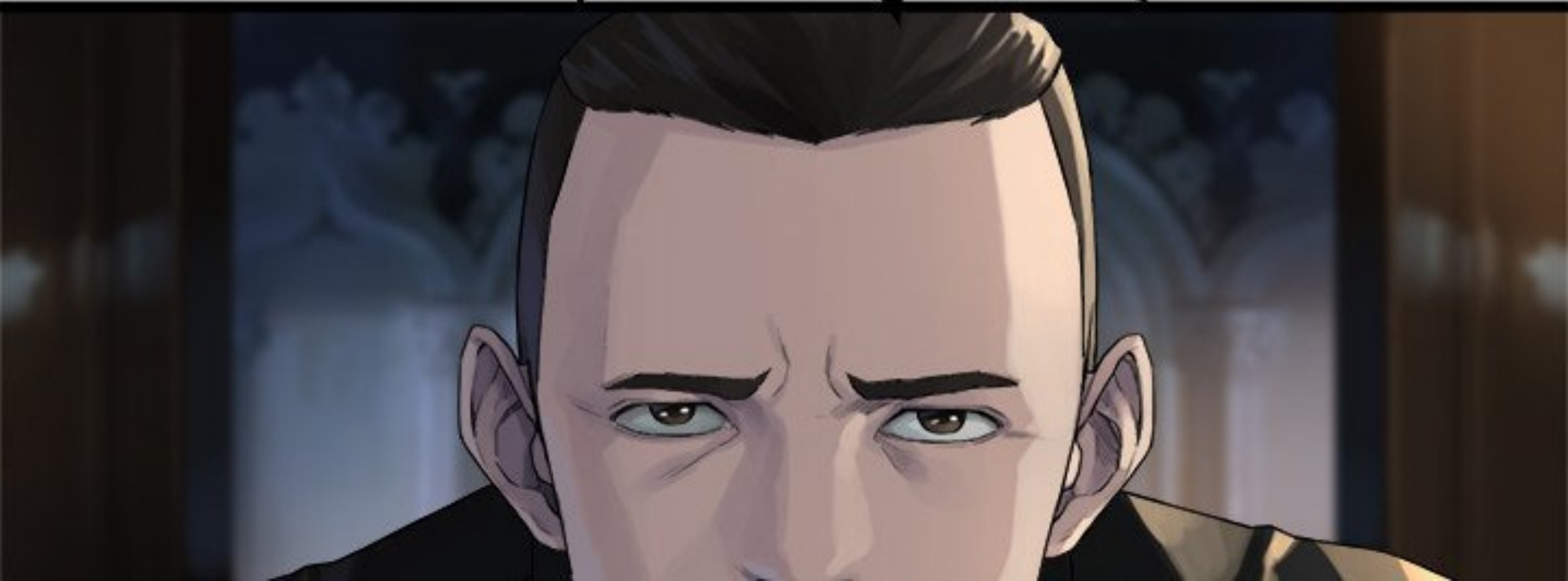


Y-YES...
WELL...



WHAT ARE
THE ASSASSINS
AND THE THIEVES
DOING?!

I THOUGHT
I TOLD THEM TO
DEAL WITH IT QUIETLY
IN THE NORTHERN
LANDS!





W-WELL...

ABYSS,
THE BIGGEST
GROUP OF
BANDITS...

CRASH

КУН!



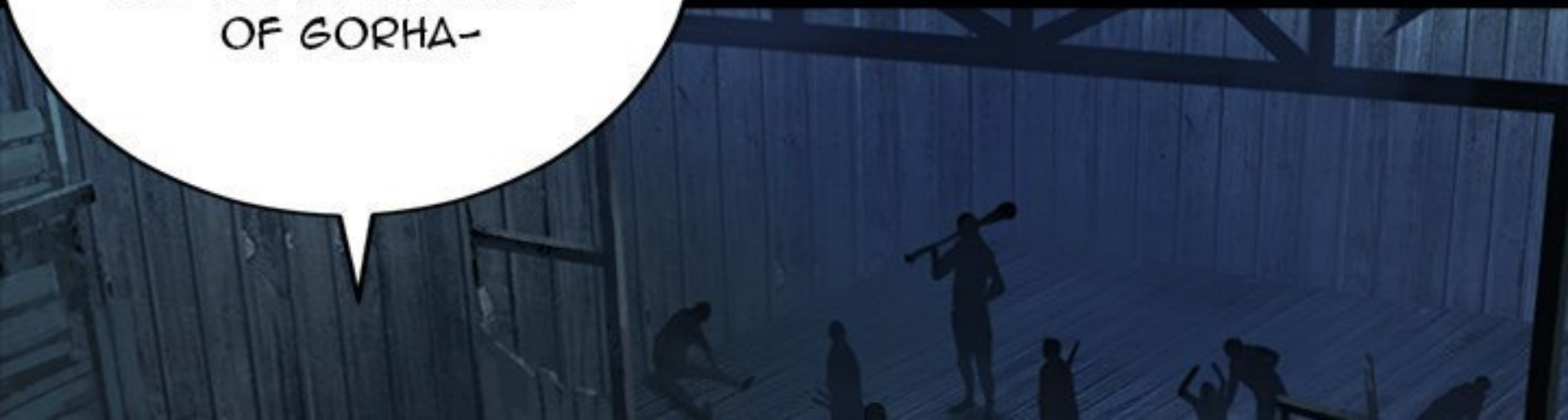
Y-YOU
BASTARDS...

KUH...



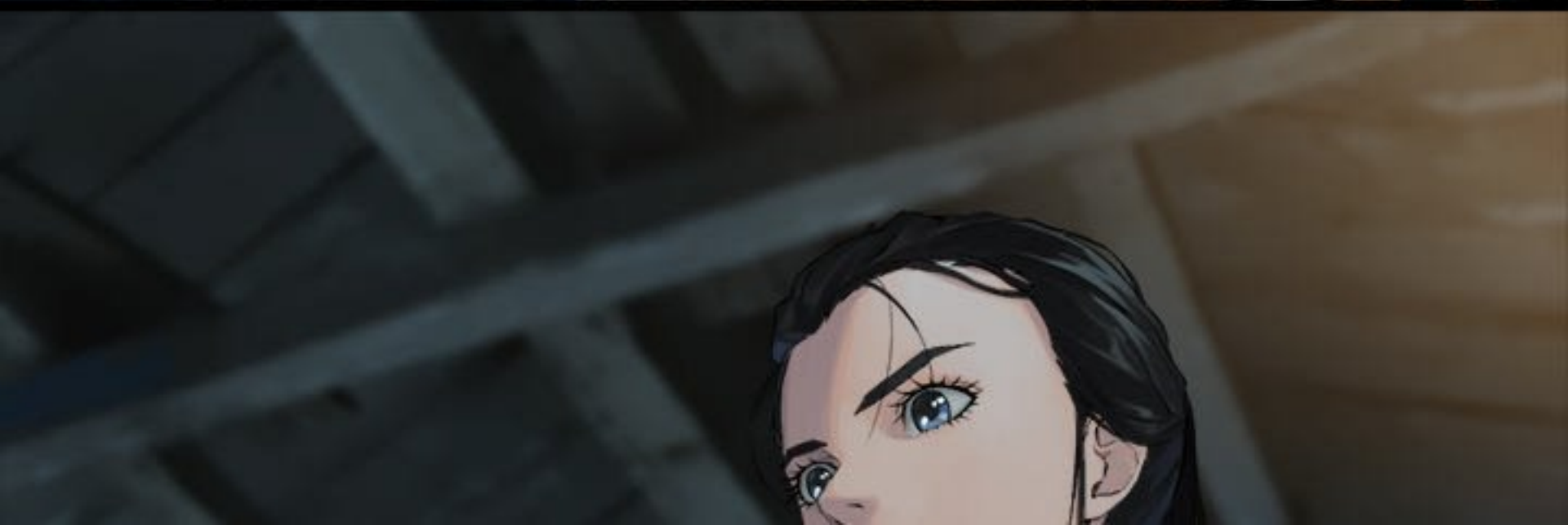
DO YOU EVEN
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
DOING RIGHT NOW?


WE'RE HERE
UNDER THE ORDERS OF
THE HIGH AUTHORITY
OF GORHA-





I THINK IT'S
YOU WHO DOESN'T
KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON.





THE PERSON
YOU WERE TOLD
TO ELIMINATE...

IS THE PERSON
WHO DEFEATED
GARDON A WHILE
AGO.




A comic panel set in a dark, industrial environment with wooden crates and metal beams. In the foreground, the back of a woman is visible; she is wearing a black crop top and black thigh-high stockings. In the background, a man with short grey hair, a dark scarf, and a dark vest stands looking towards the viewer. He has several small, illegible tattoos on his arms. A small white starburst effect is visible on a crate behind him. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the left and one at the bottom.

WHAT...?

WE JUST
SAVED YOUR
LIVES.


A woman with dark hair, wearing a black bikini top and a black arm warmer on her left arm, stands in the center of the frame. Behind her is a dark blue wooden wall with a prominent X-shaped beam structure. In the foreground, the silhouettes of five bandits are visible: one on the left carrying a long staff, one in the center, one on the right holding a sword, and two others partially visible on the far right. A large white circle is at the top of the page. A speech bubble points to the woman from the right.

TELL THE
OTHER BANDITS
TOO.



ANYONE WHO
WISHES TO TARGET
THE KING'S
EXPEDITION...

WILL HAVE
TO FACE US,
THE ABYSS
FIRST!




I CAN'T
BELIEVE
THIS!!!

A comic panel depicting a scene in a room. On the left, a three-armed candelabra with white candles stands on a surface. In the center, an older man with a bald head and a long white beard is seated at a dark wooden table, wearing a green robe. He has a concerned expression and his right hand is raised in a gesture. To his right, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a blue cloak, stands and looks at him with a slight smile. In the background, a large window with a grid pattern allows bright light to enter the room. A jagged, black speech bubble tail points from the top center towards the window.

HOLD ON.

IT WILL BE
HARD EVEN FOR
THEM IF CIVILIANS
STOP THEM.





WHAT HAPPEN
TO THE BARDS?









THEY'RE
JUST USING THEIR
PRETTY FACES TO
LURE THE AUDIENCE.
THEY CAN'T EVEN
SING.

DID YOU
HEAR HIS SONG
TOO?

IT WAS A HE...?





YEAH. BUT
THE LYRICS...

ARE TOTALLY
DIFFERENT FROM
WHAT THE ASSOCIATION
SENT US.

IN PARTICULAR,
THE PART ABOUT
HOW THE KING'S

EXPEDITION OPENED
THE SEA OF EYA WAS
REALLY DETAILED.



TCH, YOU
JUST NEED TO
SING WHAT THE
PEOPLE UP THERE
TELL YOU TO
SING.

WHAT DOES
HE THINK HE IS?
SOME KIND OF
HERO?

HEY! YOU
NEED TO BE
CAREFUL
TOO!

YOU SING
ONE SONG BADLY,
AND PEOPLE WILL
TREAT YOU LIKE
A FRAUD!



The image features a dark, textured stone wall at the very top. Below this, the background is a smooth gradient from dark grey to white. A speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the lower-left area, containing the text.

FOR SOME
REASON, THE
SONGS OF THE
BARDS AREN'T
UNITED...

SO THE
PEOPLE ARE
WELCOMING THE
KING'S EXPEDITION...



THIS IS BAD!

EARL PELO.
SHOULD WE OPEN
THE NEWLY INVENTED
OBJECT TO THE
PUBLIC OR
SOMETHING?

AH... I-IT'S
BECAUSE SOME
KID IS SPREADING
STRANGE RUMORS

AMONG THE
PEOPLE...



SERIOUSLY,

A scene from a comic book showing three men in a dimly lit room. They are seated around a long wooden table. The man on the left is looking towards the center. The man in the middle is looking down at something on the table. The man on the right is looking towards the center. A single torch on the wall provides the only light source, casting long shadows. The background is a stone wall.

I ALMOST DIED!

I'M TELLING
YOU ALCHEMISTS
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN
WORKING WITH YOU
GUYS FOR A WHILE.

TURNS OUT
THAT EARL PELO'S
A REALLY NASTY



A REALLY NASTY
GUY!

THAT GUY
WHO WENT
WITH ME...

WAS TAKEN
AWAY TO BE USED
AS AN EXPERIMENT
MATERIAL JUST BECAUSE
HE FAILED A MISSION!




AH...
I THOUGHT...

HE LOOKED
SIMILAR...

TH-THEN...
WAS THE MATERIAL
I USED LAST TIME...





JUST BE
CAREFUL,
ALRIGHT?

PAT
PAT

AND FINO

AND FIND
SOME OTHER
JOB IF YOU
CAN!

MORE AND

WOOE AL CHUUS151

MORE ALCHEMISTS
ARE QUITTING...


AND THAT'S
CAUSING DELAYS IN
THE EXPERIMENTS.

WHAT ABOUT THE
MERCENARIES?!





I THOUGHT
I TOLD THEM TO
BUILD UP THEIR
RANKS IN
ADVANCE!



W-WELL...
ONE OF THE
MERCENARY
CLANS...





ANNOUNCED
THAT THEY WOULD
TAKE OUT ONE OF THE
EYES OF WHOEVER
STOPS THE KING'S
EXPEDITION...



H-HEY...

 **TOOMICS**.com
W-WE JUST



HAD A CHAT WITH
THEM... WE DIDN'T
EVEN SIGN A
CONTRACT.

Y-YOU KNOW
WE DON'T MOVE
UNLESS WE'RE
PAID FIRST, DON'T
YOU?

OH, REALLY?
WHAT A PITY.




FWIP



LET ME
KNOW WHEN
YOU GET PAID.

I'LL COME
FOR YOUR EYE
THEN.




LET'S GO.

WHAT A
SURPRISE.


I THOUGHT
YOU ALWAYS SAID
THE KING WAS A
HYPOCRITE THAT
CAN'T BE TRUSTED,
AYKA

AKA!

A man with short dark hair and a serious expression, wearing a brown jacket over a black shirt. He is looking slightly to the right. The background is a blurred landscape with blue mountains and green foliage.

WHY ARE
YOU DOING THIS
ALL OF A SUDDEN?

HAS THE
KING BECOME
TRUSTWORTHY
OR SOMETHING?



IT'S NOT THE KING
THAT I TRUST.



IT'S THE
PUNY LITTLE
KIDS...

THAT I'M
COUNTING ON.





HIER SUMMON